



*North American Waterfowl  
Management Plan*  
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*Plan nord-américain de  
gestion de la sauvagine*  
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*Plan de Manejo de Aves  
Acuáticas de Norteamérica*

#### Committee Members

November 8, 2006

#### Canada

**Robert McLean, Co-Chair**  
*Québec*  
**Dennis Sheratt**  
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**Arnold Boer**  
*New Brunswick*  
**George Arsénault**  
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**Gerald McKeating**  
*Alberta*  
**Doug Chekay**  
*Saskatchewan*

#### Memorandum

To: NAWMP Science Support Team  
From: NAWMP Co-Chairs  
Subject: NSST Guidance

#### México

**Humberto Berlanga, Co-Chair**  
*México City*  
**Elisa Peresbarbosa Rojas**  
*Veracruz*  
**Eduardo Carrera**  
*Nuevo Leon*  
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**Eric Gustafson**  
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At its recent meeting in Fredericton, New Brunswick, the Plan Committee discussed the recommendations generated at the NSST scoping meeting and other issues regarding the role and objectives for the NSST. The Plan Committee believes the NSST is vital to advancing the vision of improving the biological foundation of the NAWMP. The Plan Committee accepts the recommendations regarding roles, membership, funding and meetings as contained in the report of the Scoping meeting, with the clarifications detailed below.

#### United States

**David A. Smith, Co-Chair**  
*Washington, D.C.*  
**Tom Melius**  
*Washington, D.C.*  
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**Joshua Sandt**  
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The Plan Committee would like the NSST to place emphasis on the first two roles identified in the report, namely, provide technical input and recommendations to the Plan Committee on Plan implementation, and, identify methods for biological planning and evaluating Plan performance on continental and regional scales. It is the view of the Plan Committee that the NSST should immediately address the following priority issues:

1. In preparation for the next NAWMP update in 2003, which will focus on the biological foundation for waterfowl conservation activities, evaluate and advise the Plan Committee on the Plan's waterfowl population objectives, and species and geographic priorities. The Plan Committee would like the update to address Plan population objectives in terms of variable environmental conditions. Also, the Plan Committee would like to define Plan priorities at a scale that would provide species and geographic guidance to Plan partners working at the Joint Venture and BCR level in all three countries.
2. Develop a long-term strategy to monitor and assess the effects of

habitat variation on waterfowl population demography at multiple geographic scales. In developing habitat monitoring strategies, the NSST should consider consulting and coordinating with the appropriate representatives of the other 3 bird initiatives cooperating in the North American Bird Conservation Initiative.

The Plan Committee is consulting with the 4 Flyway Councils to seek the appropriate level of participation of the Councils in NSST activities, perhaps including permanent membership on the NSST representing each of the 4 Flyways.

The Plan Committee will address the funding recommendations contained in the original NSST proposal by documenting existing support available to the NSST and continuing to push for new funding through the 3 federal agencies or other appropriate sources. As proposed in the Scoping meeting report, ad-hoc membership and non-member participation in the NSST will be determined the team itself.

An inaugural meeting of the NSST to begin deliberations on these important issues has been scheduled for October 24-25. The meeting will take place at Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge, close to the Minneapolis airport. The meeting will begin at 8:00 a.m. on the 24<sup>th</sup> and conclude by 2:00 p.m. on the 25<sup>th</sup>. A block of rooms has been reserved under the name North American Waterfowl Management Plan at the Airport Holiday Inn, (612)-854-9000. The meeting room on the Refuge is a short walk from the hotel. Attendees should make their own hotel reservations before Oct. 3, the cost is \$91/night plus tax. Attendees should indicate their intent to participate by Oct. 3 by contacting Seth Mott, at (703)-358-1969, or [seth\\_mott@fws.gov](mailto:seth_mott@fws.gov).

David A. Smith, U.S. Co-Chair,  
Robert McLean, Canadian Co-Chair  
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